

## FROM HAGERSTOWN, MD.

Easter Sunday a young lady was received into the church by baptism. Brother Shaver has arrived and taken charge. Sabbath morning and evening he preached to very attentive listeners, and expects to commence a series of Gospel meetings Sunday, April 21. Sunday morning his subject will be,—“Did the World need the Bible?” Evening—“Conversion”; 22,—“Safe Baptism”; 23,—“Why Christ Washed Feet”; 24,—“What Kind of Clothes to Wear”; 25,—“Great Men”; 26,—“Two Sides”; 27,—“Arbitration.” Sunday, April 28, morning service,—“A Faithful Maid.” Evening,—“Our Future”; 29,—“A Fast Young Man”; 30,—“Signs.” May 1,—“A Bad Woman”; 2,—“The Will”; 3,—“The Bride.” Will report success later.

April 17.

BERTHA BYER.

## FROM NEW TROY, MICH.

As I have not seen anything in the paper from this place for some time, I thought I would write a few lines. We are still in the harness and working for the Master. We have no pastor now but we are expecting one before long. We have a very interesting Sunday-school, and K. C. We re-organized our K. C. the last week in March with a full set of officers. We think there is work to do for each officer in the society. We also agreed as a society to obligate ourselves to the Book and Tract Committee for fifty cents which is ready for them as soon as called for. We will take the fifty cents in tracts when printed. What a great work we could do if we would throw our mite together and work together in the Brethren church. Let us be brethren not only in spirit but financially also.

Yours in love,

April 17.

W. O. BOWERS.

## THE ROAD TO SUCCESS.

There is just one road to success, and that is the road of hard work. All sorts of short-cuts have been devised and tried by people, but they have all been short cuts to failure. The long road to hard work is the only highway that leads to success; all by-paths end in the swamp. Activity is the necessity of every strong nature; a lazy boy is a sick boy or a defective boy. There is no fear about the success of the boy who works hard. Life is full of hard work, but the boy who is willing to work, who is honest and true, is the boy who will stand the best chance of becoming prosperous and influential.

I HAVE learned more of experimental religion since my little boy died than in all my life before.—*Bushnell.*

## JUSTINIAN AND THE TEMPLE.

The great emperor found in the city of Constantine no temple worthy of God, and he said: “I will build one, and the glory shall be mine; and when I die the angels at heaven’s gates will say, ‘Enter, Justinian, who built the great church of God.’” So he alone built the temple, and ordered to be inscribed over the door the words:

“BUILT FOR THE GREAT GOD  
BY THE GREAT EMPEROR JUSTINIAN.”

And so, sure enough, when the great marble cathedral was completed, curved in beautiful forms and garnished with gold, silver and gems, the day before it was dedicated the workmen carved in the stone over the door the grand inscription to the glory of the builder. The next day the chariot of the emperor rolled up to the door of the new church, at the head of a great procession. Justinian raised his eyes to the doorway, and there he read, not the inscription he had ordered, but another:

“THIS HOUSE TO GOD,  
EUPHRASIA, WIDOW, GAVE.”

Justinian called the workmen to account, but architects and carvers all testified that during the night the *inscription had been mysteriously changed*, and the chief priest said to the emperor, “This is not of man, but of God; the finger that wrote the commandments on stone, and the sentence on Belshazzar’s palace wall, has graven these words.”

So at the emperor’s command, the widow Euphrasia was sought, that they might know why God had transferred to her this honor. After a long search they found her, not a rich lady but only an old poor gray-haired woman, sick and bed-ridden, in an alley. She had not even heard of the wonderful inscription, and had given nothing to the temple. But one day, while suffering great pains, she saw the oxen dragging the marble from the ships up the streets from the wharves, and the load was so heavy and the stones in the streets so rough that they were cutting their feet upon them. She said to her attendant, “Take handfuls of straw from the bed on which I lie, and strew it on the roadway, to make it softer for the poor beasts. That is all I have done.”

Justinian learned the lesson. He had been building for his own glory, and his offering was not accepted. But this poor widow out of a loving heart had done what she could, known only to God, and her offering was in his eyes more than the gold, silver and precious stones of the king.

A YOUNG man idle, an old man needy.

## A FATAL DISEASE.

“A merchant learned that a favorite clerk had won a prize in a lottery. He called him up to the desk and discharged him, with the following remarks: ‘I have been in business forty-three years, and have yet to see the first man who gambled and remained absolutely honest. Twenty years ago I would have tried to cure you. I am too old now to take on new worries. Remember that I told you that the gambling habit was a *disease fatal to honesty* and almost incurable.’ The young man secured another position, from which he was discharged inside of two years for stealing.”

It is well to try to reform men, but it is not safe to give them too many opportunities to add to their sins. When a man is proved to be a thief, the man who trusts his own or others property in his hands may lead him into temptation, and help him on to ruin. If a man is converted, and confesses and forsakes his sins, then he may be helped; but there is little use in trying to cover up the deviltries of an impenitent thief or rogue, and thus giving him a chance to wrong us and others on a still larger scale.

## RUM ON THE RAIL.

The Chicago and Alton railroad company has issued an order prohibiting its employees from using any intoxicating drinks while they are on duty, and from visiting gambling resorts. It is a highly commendable thing for the company to do, whether viewed from the standpoint of the railroad company’s interest, or the employees’ or the public’s. Many serious accidents have occurred which were the result of the incompetency of railroad men from the use of intoxicants. A strict enforcement of the order will be promotive of temperance and good morals and of public safety. All railroad officials should follow the example set by the Alton company. Concerning toppers as railroad men, one of our city dailies well says: “There is no place on a railroad for toppers. They ought to go elsewhere and get some work which involves no responsibility and where their misconduct can endanger neither life nor property. Let them dig ditches and clean streets. But with their tremulous hands and shattered nerves they cannot be trusted by any railroad officer who wants his road to have a record of freedom from accidents.”—*Christian Oracle.*

WHEN the eyes are opened by prayer and penitence, when the ear is purged by listening humbly for the revelation of His will, then all life, all history are full of Him.—*F. W. Farrar.*